

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

CIEP-01 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEAE-00

AGR-05 /098 W

----- 035500

R 131849Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7528

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 06536

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: PFOR' EEC, FR

SUBJECT: EC SUMMIT: FRENCH IMPRESSIONS

1. SUMMARY: QUAI BELIEVES THAT WILSON WILL RECOMMEND TO CABINET AND THEN TO UK VOTERS THAT BRITAIN STAY IN EC. UNTIL THAT ISSUE IS DISPCSED OF, WE DO NOT FORESEE ANY MOVEMENT IN THE "CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE." QUAI OFFICIALS ALSO BRIEFED US OR DUBLIN SUMMIT'S TREATMENT OF ENERGY, CSCE AS WELL AS SOME SIDELIGHTS CONCERNING PERSONALITIES. END SUMMARY.

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2. IN MEETING WITH DCM MARCH 12, DE LABOULAYE (QUAI POLITICAL DIRECTOR) GAVE HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE DUBLIN EC SUMMIT MEETING.

3. UK RENEGOTIATION: DE LABOULAYE SAID THAT HE BELIEVES WILSON WILL RECOMMEND TO HIS CABINET THAT IT ACCEPT RESULTS OF RENEGOTIATION. IF CABINET SUPPORTS WILSON'S VIEW, DE LABOULAYE BELIEVES WILSON WILL RECOMMEND TO THE BRITISH PEOPLE THAT THEY VOTE "YES" ON THE UK REFERENDUM IN JUNE. CONCERNING COMPROMISE WORKED OUT AT DUBLIN ON ISSUES OF UK RENEGOTIATION, HE SAID THAT SCHMIDT HAD TABLED TWO PROPOSALS, EACH OF WHICH WAS REJECTED BY WILSON. FINALLY, GISCARD TABLED A FRENCH PROPOSAL WHICH, IN THE END, WAS ACCEPTED BY WILSON.

4. ENERGY: DE LABOULAYE SAID THAT THE SUMMIT AGREED TO FORM AN AD HOC HIGH-LEVEL GROUP TO DEFINE THE EC POSITION FOR THE ENERGY CONFERENCE. AD HOC GROUP WOULD STUDY ENERGY AND ECONOMIC/MONETARY PROBLEMS. THE DUBLIN SUMMIT LEFT OPEN THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OTHER SUBJECTS (BEYOND ENERGY) WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR DISCUSSION AT ENERGY CONFERENCE.

5. PERSONALITIES: DE LABOULAYE SAID THAT SCHMIDT'S HEALTH WAS OBVIOUSLY BAD; HE WAS SUFFICIENTLY SICK MONDAY NIGHT TO HAVE TO LEAVE THE SUMMIT MEETING. THE GERMAN DELEGATION MADE NO EFFORT TO HIDE THE STATE OF HIS HEALTH. DE LABOULAYE SAID THAT THERE WAS ALSO A GOOD DEAL OF SPECULATION BY EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE CONDITION OF BREZHNEV'S HEALTH, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON THE EXACT NATURE OR SERIOUSNESS OF HIS CONDITION. THROUGHOUT THE MEETINGS, WILSON WAS A HARD -- THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY ABRASIVE -- PARTICIPANT. THE UK RENEGOTIATION PROBLEM WAS ESSENTIALLY HANDLED BY BRITISH, GERMANS, FRENCH AND DUTCH, WITH THE OTHERS (ACCORDING TO DE LABOULAYE) PLAYING LESS ACTIVE ROLES. GISCARD'S PERFORMANCE WAS NOT AN AGGRESSIVE ONE, AND WAS DIRECTED TOWARD "CONCILIATION" RATHER THAN POSTURING OR CONFRONTATION.

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6. US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS: DE LABOULAYE SAID THIS SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED DURING THE SUMMIT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AGREEMENT BY EVERYONE THAT CSCE ITEMS SHOULD BE FULLY COORDINATED WITH THE U.S.

7. CSCE: DE LABOULAYE DESCRIBED THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE'S REFERENCE TO CSCE AS "NOTHING NEW." HE MENTIONED THAT

THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THE IDEA OF A WESTERN SUMMIT ON CSCE PRIOR TO A FULL CSCE SUMMIT, AND HE ADDED THAT THERE WAS NO FINAL AGREEMENT REACHED ON THIS SUBJECT BY THE DUBLIN MEETING.

8. CYPRUS: THERE WAS VERY LITTLE DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT.

9. EC INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS: THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT, ACCORDING TO DE LABOULAYE. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE IDEA OF REGULAR MEETINGS BY THE "EUROPEAN COUNCIL" SEEMS TO BE ACCEPTED BY ALL EC

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 06536

MEMBERS. THE FORMAT OF THE DUBLIN MEETING FOLLOWED CLOSELY THE IDEAS THAT THE FRENCH HAVE BEEN PURSUING: SMALL, INFORMAL SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS AT HEAD OF GOVERNMENT/FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. DE LABOULAYE DID NOT SAY, HOWEVER, WHETHER ALL EC ALLIES NOW ACCEPT THE TERM "EUROPEAN COUNCIL" FOR THESE GATHERINGS.

1L. COMMENT: SEEN FROM PARIS, MAIN RESULT OF DUBLIN SUMMIT WAS AGREEMENT ON UK RENEGOTIATION ISSUE. FRENCH CONFIDENTIAL

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BELIEVE EC HAS EQUIPPED WILSON WITH SUFFICIENT AMMUNITION TO PURSUADE BOTH HIS CABINET AND THE BRITISH PEOPLE TO THE WISDOM OF REMAINING IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THE MORE SENIOR LEVELS OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT SEEM PREPARED TO DEFER TO WILSON'S JUDGMENT ON HOW TO PLAY THE TACTICAL SITUATION OF INJECTING HIS PERSONAL SUPPORT INTO THE UK REFERENDUM BATTLE. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THESE SAME SENIOR LEVELS ARE CON/IDENT THAT, AT THE RIGHT TIME, WILSON WILL THROW HIS WEIGHT BEHIND THE PRO-MARKET FORCES IN GREAT BRITAIN. THIS VIEW IS REINFORCED BY WHAT WE KNOW OF GISCARD'S PERFORMANCE AT DUBLIN: HE SEEMS TO HAVE SOUGHT TO RESOLVE THE UK RENEGOTIATION PROBLEM, AND TO AVOID TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS SUBJECT TO PRESS TRADITIONAL GAULLIST DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR CONCERNING THE EC. ALL EYES IN PARIS NOW WILL FOCUS ON THE UK CABINET DECISION CONCERNING UK MEMBERSHIP IN THE EC, WILSON'S ROLE IN THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN, AND THE REFERENDUM ITSELF. UNTIL THIS ISSUE IS FINALLY DISPOSED OF, IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT THE FRENCH -- OR ANY OF THE OTHER EC MEMBERS -- WILL BE PREPARED TO MOVE ANY FURTHER TOWARD "THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE."

11. WE ALSO CONSIDER IT NOTEWORTHY THAT BOTH IN TIMING AND CONTENT, DE LABOULAYE'S BRIEFING WAS REMARKABLY FORTHCOMING COMPARED TO RECORD OF HIS PREDECESSOR. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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